

Hoosier Archives was originally a periodic listing of the Diplomacy archives of Walter Buchanan, R.R. 3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052, telephone (317) 482-2824; Archives Director, PDC, and a member of "DipOrg," TDA, IFWDS and the PDRC. It is now primarily a Diplomacy gazette devoted to articles on good play, demonstration games such as The Grudge Game (1971BC) now in progress, rating systems and game news. Information from the archives is vital for all this and is available to the public as well. Although the archives is virtually complete in at least xerox form, missing undamaged originals are solicited, either for purchase or a loan to permit xeroxing. (See the last archives listing in Hoosier Archives #53 for zines needed.) Many original spares are now available from the archives; more are solicited so as to make them available to others. A subscription to Hoosier Archives is 15/\$2.00 or 7/\$1.00; back issues are available for 15¢ apiece (20% discount for all available). Ask for #73 to get a list of all articles through #74. This is Albatross Press publication #81.

### INTO/OUT OF THE ARCHIVES NO. 32/21

We have a double treat for you this time. Some time ago Ted Holcombe commented on the article, "French Openings," written by Len Lakofka in Hoosier Archives #52. He also sent an article about a locked-up position for France. Since this has since been published in Diplomaphia #93, it now qualifies for reprint or "Out of the Archives" status. The article about another French opening, however, had never been published and so is hereprinted as "Into the Archives No. 32." Many thanks, Ted, for two very fine articles. (Ted, by the way, is the publisher of the very fine gazette, Pacific Diplodrome.)

#### ANOTHER FRENCH OPENING

by Ted Holcombe

Re Len Lakofka's article on French openings (Hoosier Archives #52), he omitted my favorites: A Par-Bur, F Bre-Mid, A Mar-Spa.

It is a rare German who will attempt Burgundy on the first move, so support isn't really necessary. The advantage of this opening is the flexibility it provides with respect to Italy. If Italy moves to Piedmont, A Spa-Mar, A Bur-Mar will provide you with a build for Spain while at the same time defending Marseilles from attack and ensuring that Marseilles will be available for building a southern fleet. Alternatively, A Spa-Por, F Mid-Spa(80) also improves fleet positioning for attack on Spain while giving two builds.

Another advantage is that if F Mid is needed to move against England in the fall, either to Brest, English Channel or Irish Sea, A Spain can move to Portugal. This way it can take Spain in 1902 and would start 1903 closer to the French heartland.

Of course, there is no perfect opening in Diplomacy as the best move is going to depend upon the diplomatic situation, but I think this combination at least deserves honorable mention.

#### THE HOLCOMBE LINE

by Ted Holcombe

Much has been said about the English locked-up position of A Stp, A Nor, A Den, F Por, F Mid, and F Nat, which, assuming no fleets behind the line, locks up 8 supply centers (Lon, Liv, Edi, Nor, Swe, StP, Den, and Por) with only six units. However, very little has been said about the corresponding French locked-up position, which is even stronger, once obtained.

The key is the land blockade of A Bur, A Ruh, and A Kis, where Kiel replaces Denmark in the above English locked-up position (note you could get by with Holland and Denmark in place of Kiel, but this would require one more unit for one less supply center). If Germany is still alive and capable of building fleets in Berlin which could attack Scandinavia through Livonia and Berlin, the addition of F Bal and F Bot would suffice for 100% safety in the north.

The southern half of the French position is a little more difficult. The minimum would

be F Mar, F Spa(sc), F Eyo with F Mos and F Mar. This provides a total of 15 centers for 10 units (12 with two fleets in the Baltic and Bosphorus). By replacing North Africa with Tunis, we obtain 16 centers for the same 12 units.

Additional expansion could add Venice, Rome and Naples by replacing the above 5 units with A Pie, A Ven, A Tus or Rom, A Apu, A Nap, F Tyr, and A Tun. This provides 19 centers (StP, Nor, Swe, Den, Kie, Hol, Bel, Edi, Liv, Lon, Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por, Tun, Nap, Rom and Ven) "locked-up" with only 14 units maximum (A StP\*, Kor\*, Kie\*, Ruh, Bur, Pie, Ven\*, Rom, Apu\*, Nap\*, F Tyr, A Tun\*, F Bal, and F Bot where \* units could be replaced with fleets).

If you think the position is unobtainable, I'd refer you to Erachon 1971F, where, if I elected to do so, I could easily conquer Scandinavia and obtain the above position.

For those to whom the orders are not obvious, the locked-up orders would be: A StP H, A Norway S A StP, F Bot MS F Bal, A Kie H, A Ruh S A Kie, A Bur H, A Ven H, A Pie and A Rom S A Ven, A Apu H, A Nap S A Apu, F Tyr H, F Tun H.

The key to it all is the "Holcombe Line" of A Kie, A Ruh and A Bur. Any English-French alliance which can establish this line would become virtually impregnable in the north and would have all kinds of units to play around with in the south. Similarly, it should be noted that a French-Italian alliance wherein France controls the northern seas would be equally powerful. It goes without saying that an English-French-Italian alliance would be extremely hard to stop.

#### ARCHIVES ARTICLE LISTING

The following articles have been printed or are now on file in Hoosier Archives. Most of the issues in which they appear are still available for 15¢ apiece.

Beshara, John	"An Overly Defensive Strategy Leads to Stagnation," HA #10
Beshara, John	"The Philosophy of Winning Diplomacy," HA #7
Beyerlein, Doug	"A Comparison of Rating Systems," HA #74
Beyerlein, Doug	"Rating Systems as I See Them," HA #44
Beyerlein, Doug	"Tactics: Diplomacy's Forgotten Child," HA #62
Birsan, Edi	"French Opening Variations," HA #59
Birsan, Edi	"The Jordan Gauntlet," HA #56
Birsan, Edi	"The Koniggratz Freak-out," HA #64
Birsan, Edi	"The Jutland Gambit," HA #48
Birsan, Edi	"The Lepanto Opening," HA #43
Birsan, Edi	"Two Statistical Years," HA #45
Brooks, Rick	"Diplomacy as I See It: The Mythology of Diplomacy--Part One: Chance," HA #38
Brooks, Rick	"Diplomacy as I See It: The Mythology of Diplomacy--Part Two: The Rating Systems," HA #39
Brooks, Rick	"Diplomacy as I See It: The Variants," HA #39
Brooks, Rick	"Why Not Turkey?" HA #68
Buchanan, Carol	"A Dippy Widow Goes to Youngstown," HA #51
Buchanan, Walt	"Follow the Action: The McCallum System of Notation," HA #54
Buchanan, Walt	"A Hoosier at DIPCON IV," HA #34
Calhanez, Allan	"On the Play of Postal Diplomacy," HA #17
Calhanez, Allan	"The Tactics of Diplomacy," HA #22
Holcombe, Ted	"Another French Opening," HA #73
Holcombe, Ted	"The Holcombe Line," HA #73
Jarvis, Bill	"The Perils and Pitfalls of That Grand Old Game, Rulebook FTF Diplomacy," HA #32
Lakoffka, Len	"French Openings," HA #52
Lakoffka, Len	"The Organized Diplomacy Player," HA #63
Lakoffka, Len	"Treaties," HA #18
Lakoffka, Len	"Turkish Openings," HA #61
Lakoffka, Len	"The Viennese Dilemma," HA #67
Lamb, Robert	"The Cherbourg Fake," HA #72

Mozik, Steve	"An Introduction to One on One Diplomacy," HA #42
Mozik, Steve	"Why Turkey?" HA #66
Peery, Larry	"Diplomacy--Introduction to the Strategy and Tactics of Diplomacy," (1 article for each of the 7 major powers) HA #24-26, 28-31
Peery, Larry	"The Subtle Art of Backstabbing," HA #46
Prosnitz, Eugene	"Principles of Alliance," HA #12-13
Prosnitz, Eugene	"Alliance Breaking, Double-Crossing, and the Balance of Power," HA #14
Prosnitz, Eugene	"Correspondence in Postal Play," HA #15
Snythe, John	"A Case for the Triple Alliance," HA #6
Snythe, John	"Germany," HA #8
Vagts, Arnold	"Tactical Considerations in Locked Up Positions," HA #40
Vagts, Arnold	"You Have a Locked Up Position, so Now What," HA #41
Ver Ploeg, Brenton	"Ver Ploeg on Germany," HA #20
Ver Ploeg, Brenton	"Why I Hate Italy," HA #20
von Metzke, Conrad	"Block That Metaphor! Stop That Pun!" HA #57
Walker, Rod	"The Churchill Opening," HA #50
Walker, Rod	"Metaphor? Pun? Hell, Stop Those Conjunctions!" HA #69
Walker, Rod	"Minority/Survival in Diplomacy," HA #33
Walker, Rod	"Russia's Northern Offensive," HA #55
Walker, Rod	"A Short History of the Boardman Numbers," HA #58
Walker, Rod	"Walker in Konigsburg," HA #11-12

#### GAME OPENINGS

The following is a partial list of Diplomacy game-zine editors believed to currently have game openings in their zines: (note: R denotes regular games and V Denotes variants)

8. Ray A. Bowers, Jr., 625 Evans, Kirkwood, Mo. 63122 (R, "girls' game!")
10. Steve Cooper, 3073 S. Buchanan, B-2, Arlington, Va. 22206 (R)
20. Lenard Lakofka, 4970 N. Marine Dr., Apt. 525, Chicago, Ill. 60640 (R)
25. James Messar, 127 N. Emmons St., Danmore, N.Y. 12929 (R,V)
32. Tony Pandin, 10406 Shaker Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44104 (R)
36. Andrew Phillips, 128 Oliver St., Daly City, Calif. 94014 (R,V)
38. Lewis Pulsipher, 321A Twin Towers, Albion, Mich. 49224 (R,V)
49. Brenton Ver Ploeg, 520 Parker, #202, San Francisco, Calif. 94118 (R)
50. Conrad von Metzke, Grendel Press, PO Box 8342, San Diego, Calif. 92102 (R)
52. Bob Ward, 8665 Flamin Rd., #176, Sacramento, Calif. 95828 (R)
55. Charles Welsh, 6917 Cherry Lane, Annadale, Va. 22003 (R)
56. Stan Wrobel, 7 Poland Village Blvd., Poland, Ohio 44514 (R,V)
58. Bill Buzan, 48-20 39th St., Long Island City, N.Y. 11106 (R)
59. Fred Davis, Jr., 5307 Carriage Court, Baltimore, Md. 21229 (V)
62. Mark Weidmark, 528 Park Crescent, Pickering, Ontario, Canada (R)
63. Fred Winter, 2625 El Rancho Drive, Brookfield, Wis. 53005 (R,V)
64. Paul Wood, 24613 Harmon Court, St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080 (R)
65. Joseph Antosik, 3637 Arden Ave., Brookfield, Ill. 60513 (R,V)
67. John Boyer, 117 Carland Drive, Carlisle, Pa. 17013 (R)
70. Karl Pattis, 2250 NW 20th Ct., Gainesville, Fla. 32601 (R)

#### AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY DOUG BEYERLEIN

Once again Walt has generously allowed me to use Hossier Archives to announce the publication of ballots for PPP #4. A ballot for #4 is enclosed with this issue. I ask all interested people to complete the ballot, sign it, and return it to me, Doug Beyerlein (address on the ballot).

To increase the response, I have contacted a number of publishers to publish the ballots in their zines. All publishers are encouraged to copy the ballot for distribution through their zines, whether or not I have contacted them individually. All cooperation will be gratefully acknowledged with a copy of the results in July. Questions, comments, and/or suggestions should be directed to Doug Beyerlein. Thanks for helping.

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**BEYERLEIN PLAYER POLL BALLOT #4**

The Beyerlein Player Poll (BPP) is a poll of the Postal Diplomacy community to determine the best currently-active players in Postal Diplomacy. Any Postal Diplomacy player, gamesmaster, editor, or publisher may cast his/her ballot for the top 14 (from #1 to #14) currently-active Postal Diplomacy players.

Points are given as follows: 1st place - 20 points, 2nd place - 17 points, 3rd place - 15, 4th - 13, 5th - 11, 6th - 9, 7th - 8, etc. The points are then summed for each player and the top 14 players listed by point totals. Results will be published in all major zines.

**TOP BOARD**

**Comments:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

**SECOND BOARD**

8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:**

Please complete the ballot, sign it, and mail it directly to:

**DOUG BEYERLEIN, 3934 S.W. SOUTHERN, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98116**

**Incomplete ballots or ballots without a signature will not be counted.**

**DEADLINE: 11 July 1972**

**Thank you.**

\* \* \* \* \*

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